

CHELMSFORD AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY

Newsletter O N E H U N D R E D

May 1974

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Society will take place on Tuesday 7th May at 7.30pm, at Marconi College, Arbour Lane, Chelmsford, with a talk on "GB2CCS, its pros and cons" by Roy Martyr, G3PMX, and John Greenwood, G3KRZ.

It is surprising what facts have come out of this event.

Next Committee Meeting

The "Wheatsheaf", New Street, Chelmsford, at 7.30pm on May 22nd 1974. Committee please note change of date.

Newsletter

As you will have noted from the heading, we have reached the One Hundredth edition of the Newsletter. It was first introduced on January 1966 for an experimental period of three months. I should think by now that it has proved its worth.

To celebrate Guglielmo Marconi's 100th birthday, the Chelmsford Amateur Radio Society decided to establish a special event station in the Chelmsford area to commemorate this event. Roy Martyr, G3PMX, offered to the Society, the use of his station, which was gratefully accepted. Most Bands were operated, between 160-2 metres, with some very interesting QSOs.

Grateful thanks are offered to Roy, Ela and Family, from all operators and visitors to the station for their marvelous hospitality.

We also had very good coverage from the Media. It was realised during the week that another anniversary celebration was in order, the first Radio Factory in the world was established in Chelmsford 75 years ago in 1899.

To my mind, Marconi's greatest achievement was his microwave link (operating frequency around 300MHz) which was set up between Vatican City and the Pope's Summer Residence. Most of you will know that it is not so easy to build a V.H.F. rig and get it stable and efficient. Remember that it was in 1932, and he had no yardsticks to operate with, or by.

Old Newsletters

Going back through the previous Newsletters, I have one or two items which are worth a re-print. One technical item which was in Newsletter Number 3, had results which were reached after extensive research and over the last few years have proved to be correct.

Quote:-

D.F. Receiver

Many shapes and sizes of Ferrite rod have been tried, but best results are obtained with the large diameter rod. Using a Q-meter, optimum results were found on a rod of $\frac{5}{8}$ " diameter by $7\frac{1}{4}$ " long (Mullard Ferroxcube FX1268). The measured Q is 300 at 1900kHz with a tuning capacitor of 120pF.

continued/

Winding Details

Make a start $2\frac{3}{4}$ " from one end and wind $2\frac{1}{4}$ turns of 22 SWG enamelled (or mylar) covered copper wire, very evenly spaced to finish $\frac{1}{2}$ " from the other end. Make a tap $2\frac{1}{2}$ turns from the start.

Connecting Details

The start is 'earthy' end, this should be connected to the 'earthy' side of the tuning capacitor and outer of a short length of coaxial cable. The inner of the cable should be connected to the tap at $2\frac{1}{2}$ turns. The finish of the winding should be connected to the 'hot' side of the tuning capacitor.

The coaxial cable carries the R.F. signal to the base of the mixer transistor. The outer of the cable is grounded to the receiver chassis. Its overall length is not critical. Bandspread is necessary with this very high Q and a tuning capacitor of 50pF, with one vane removed should be used in parallel with a 100pF polystyrene fixed capacitor.

It has been found by experiment, that this type of aerial has 'sense', the finish of the winding points towards the signal.

Unquote.

The above, by Roy Martyr and an article by Geoff Mills, G3EDM, which appeared in "RadCom" May 1969, will make a very good D.F. receiver. Although the 465kHz I.F. module is in very short supply, the newer 465/10.7MHz module should not detract from the original specification.

While we are on the subject of D.F. our first event was in 1965 and has gone from strength to strength. We now have some of the R.S.G.B. National Qualifying Events in the Chelmsford area. The latest of which, took place on the 28th April 1974, with G3KPJ/P and G3WMM/P as the hidden stations. Although at the moment, news is a bit sketchy, we know for sure that Ian Butson was first in. Congratulations Ian!

Also from earlier days:-

80 Metre Contests

Were instigated in Newsletter Number 1, and run by C.A.R.S. They were well supported, and a great success.

160 Metre Nets

Were running on Friday evenings, before the first Newsletter. They are on the go again, so why not call in. The frequency:- approx 1915kHz, the time:- 8.30pm B.S.T.

R.S.G.B. Field Day

Has been continuously supported, one year we won the Trophy for 80 Metre Section, and were only placed 16th overall, so come on Lads, a big smile and lets us be placed First overall, or at least collar one of the Band awards this year. It will be a good start to the next hundred Newsletters which I hope will be as eventful as the last.

73 and GD DX.

Les.

Wanted

Crystals, HC6U preferred, range between 9062.5 to 9093.5kHz.

Barry Tew, G3WFF,
QTHR. Tel 59107.

Hon. Editor

Les Turner, G4/8CUT,
QTHR.

Daytime, Tel 421188
Ext. 204.